



# House of Representatives

General Assembly

**File No. 187**

January Session, 2011

Substitute House Bill No. 6446

*House of Representatives, March 23, 2011*

The Committee on General Law reported through REP. TABORSAK of the 109th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

**AN ACT CONCERNING REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS OF  
PUBLIC SERVICE TECHNICIANS AND CERTIFIED COMPETITIVE  
VIDEO SERVICE PROVIDERS.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 20-340b of the general statutes is repealed and the  
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2011*):

3 (a) As used in this section:

4 (1) "Telecommunications electrical work" means work permitted to  
5 be performed by holders of a limited electrical contractor's license (T-1)  
6 as provided by regulation adopted under this chapter.

7 (2) "Public service technician" means an employee of [a public] any  
8 of the following: (A) Public service company, [or] certified  
9 telecommunications provider or certified competitive video service  
10 provider, as defined in section 16-1, [or any] (B) an affiliate of any such  
11 company or provider, or (C) a contractor of any such company or  
12 provider or affiliate of such company or provider, who is engaged in

13 telecommunications electrical work and who is not otherwise exempt  
14 from licensing pursuant to section 20-340.

15 (b) Notwithstanding any provision of this chapter to the contrary, a  
16 public service technician may be issued a certificate of registration by  
17 the Department of Consumer Protection, upon authorization of the  
18 Electrical Work Board, in lieu of any license which otherwise might be  
19 required under this chapter, which shall entitle the holder of such  
20 certificate to perform telecommunications electrical work only as  
21 provided in this section, provided the public service company,  
22 certified telecommunications provider, certified competitive video  
23 service provider or affiliate or contractor which employs the public  
24 service technician certifies to the Electrical Work Board that the  
25 employee has obtained such training and experience deemed  
26 necessary by the public service company, certified telecommunications  
27 provider, certified competitive video service provider or affiliate or  
28 contractor to perform telecommunications electrical work included in  
29 such employee's job functions.

30 (c) The content and duration of the training and experience  
31 programs provided by the public service company, certified  
32 telecommunications provider, certified competitive video service  
33 provider or affiliate or contractor must be relevant to the duties of the  
34 employee and must be approved biennially by the Labor Department.  
35 In reviewing the programs and training provided by a public service  
36 company, certified telecommunications provider, certified competitive  
37 video service provider or affiliate or contractor, the Labor Department  
38 shall consider the specialization of the employees of the company, [or]  
39 provider, affiliate or contractor, the employee's previous company, [or]  
40 provider, affiliate or contractor, training, the service record of the  
41 company, [or] provider, affiliate or contractor, the experience of the  
42 company, [or] provider, affiliate or contractor in training employees to  
43 perform telecommunications electrical work, and the quality assurance  
44 measures used by the company, [or] provider, affiliate or contractor.

45 (d) An employee enrolled in the training programs of the public

46 service company, [or] certified telecommunications provider, certified  
47 competitive video service provider or affiliate or contractor shall be  
48 issued a trainee's certificate by such company, [or] provider, affiliate or  
49 contractor, valid for the duration of the training program, and may  
50 perform telecommunications electrical work only under the  
51 supervision of an employee of the public service company, certified  
52 telecommunications provider, [or] certified competitive video service  
53 provider, affiliate or contractor who is a registered public service  
54 technician or holds a journeyman's license.

55 (e) A public service company, [or] certified telecommunications  
56 provider, certified competitive video service provider, affiliate or  
57 contractor employing a public service technician shall inform the  
58 Electrical Work Board upon the change in job description or  
59 termination of any registered public service technician previously  
60 certified to the board pursuant to subsection (b) of this section and  
61 upon the issuance or termination of a trainee's certificate provided to  
62 an employee pursuant to subsection (d) of this section.

63 (f) A registered public service technician or employee of a public  
64 service company, certified telecommunications provider, [or] certified  
65 competitive video service provider, affiliate or contractor issued a  
66 trainee's certificate by such company, [or] provider, affiliate or  
67 contractor may only perform such work on behalf of such public  
68 service company, certified telecommunications provider, [or] certified  
69 competitive video service provider, affiliate or contractor and only  
70 while in the direct employment of such public service company,  
71 certified telecommunications provider, or certified competitive video  
72 service provider, affiliate or contractor. Such registration or trainee's  
73 certificate will be immediately relinquished upon termination of  
74 employment from such public service company, certified  
75 telecommunications provider, or certified competitive video service  
76 provider, affiliate or contractor.

77 (g) A registered public service technician may not supervise any  
78 duly registered apprentice performing work under a permit issued

79 pursuant to subdivision (4) of subsection (a) of section 20-334a.

80 (h) The public service technician's registration shall expire annually.  
81 The fee for registration as a public service technician shall be the same  
82 fee as that charged for a journeyman's license under section 20-335.

83 (i) Registered public service technicians shall be subject to the same  
84 disciplinary actions as journeymen, including, but not limited to,  
85 actions authorized under sections 20-334, 20-341 and 21a-9.

86 (j) Supervisory personnel of a public service company, certified  
87 telecommunications provider, [or] certified competitive video service  
88 provider, affiliate or contractor authorized to employ registered public  
89 service technicians pursuant to this section may act as an agent of such  
90 company, [or] provider, affiliate or contractor for the purpose of taking  
91 out a permit pursuant to section 20-332-16(b) of the regulations of  
92 Connecticut state agencies.

93 (k) In lieu of displaying a contractor's license number pursuant to  
94 section 20-334, each public service company, certified  
95 telecommunications provider, or certified competitive video service  
96 provider, affiliate or contractor authorized pursuant to this section to  
97 employ registered public service technicians shall display its name,  
98 logo or other trademark which clearly identifies the company, [or]  
99 provider, affiliate or contractor on all commercial vehicles used in its  
100 business and in a conspicuous manner on all printed advertisements,  
101 bid proposals, contracts and invoices and on all stationery used in its  
102 business.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Section 1	October 1, 2011	20-340b
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**Statement of Legislative Commissioners:**

The first closing bracket in section 1 (a) (2) was moved and the initial new language in said subdivision was conformed as necessary for proper form.

**GL**      *Joint Favorable Subst.-LCO*

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

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**OFA Fiscal Note****State Impact:**

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 12 \$	FY 13 \$
Consumer Protection, Dept.	GF - Revenue Gain	72,000 to 96,000	72,000 to 96,000

Note: GF=General Fund

**Municipal Impact:** None

**Explanation**

The bill results in a revenue gain of \$72,000 to \$96,000 in FY 12 and FY 13 by expanding the definition of "public service technician" to include (1) employees and affiliates of certified competitive video service providers and (2) employees of contractors for public service companies, certified telecommunications providers, and certified competitive video service providers. The expanded definition would result in 600 to 800 additional licensees.

**The Out Years**

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject to the number of licensees.

**OLR Bill Analysis****HB 6446*****AN ACT CONCERNING REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS OF PUBLIC SERVICE TECHNICIANS AND CERTIFIED COMPETITIVE VIDEO SERVICE PROVIDERS.*****SUMMARY:**

By law, “public service technician” is allowed to perform telecommunications electrical work without an electrical license, when registered with the Department of Consumer Protection (DCP).

This bill expands those who qualify as public service technician’s to include (1) employees and affiliates of certified competitive video service providers and (2) employees of contractors for public service companies, certified telecommunications providers, and certified competitive video service providers.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2011

**BACKGROUND*****Public Service Technicians***

DCP must issue a certificate of registration to a public service technician, upon authorization from the Electrical Work Board that the employer certifies the technician has the proper training and experience to perform telecommunications electrical work.

The type of training and experience must be relevant to the employee’s duties and be approved biennially by the Labor Department. An employee enrolled in the training program must be issued a trainee’s certificate for the duration of the training program. This allows them to perform telecommunications electrical work under the supervision of someone who is a registered public service technician or holds a journeyman’s license.

A registered public service technician or trainee may perform work only while directly employed by the authorizing employer. The registration and trainee's certificate are immediately void upon termination of employment.

The public service technician's registration expires annually and costs \$120. Technicians are subject to the same disciplinary actions as journeymen.

***Certified Competitive Video Service Provider***

A certified competitive video service provider provide video service pursuant to a certificate of video franchise authority issued by the Department of Public Utility Control in accordance with CGS § 16-331e.

**COMMITTEE ACTION**

General Law Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 13      Nay 4      (03/10/2011)